

## Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 MMO-01 TRSE-00 JUSE-00

FTC-01 L-03 AID-05 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00

USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

/060 W

-----054635 161856Z /43

R 161545Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6551

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 13279

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BEXP, ETRD, IT

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ON BOYCOTT PRACTICES: ITALIAN VIEW

REFS: (A) ROME 12928; (B) STATE 185350

1. MFA OFFICIAL GAVE EMBOFF PORTION OF "RESERVED" MFA SURVEY OF WHERE SEVERAL COUNTRIES STAND ON ARAB BOYCOTT ISSUE. ON GROUNDS THIS ITALIAN PERCEPTION MAY BE OF INTEREST TO DEPARTMENT AND OTHER POSTS EMBASSY PROVIDES PARAPHRASED TRANSLATION IN SUBSEQUENT PARAS.

2. BEGIN TEXT. GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC. ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION IS NOT UNDER STUDY ON GROUNDS THAT SUCH LEGISLATION COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT EXPORTS TO ARAB MARKET. ARAB COUNTRIES VARY IN THE RIGIDITY OF THEIR BOYCOTT; LEGISLATION SIMILAR TO THAT IN U.S. COULD RESULT ONLY IN AN INCREASED SOLIDARITY OF  
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THE BOYCOTT.

3. BELGIUM. NEITHER LAWS NOR ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS ON THE ARAB BOYCOTT ARE BEING PREPARED. GOB CONSIDERS BOYCOTT CONTRARY TO GATT PROVISIONS ON FREE COMPETITION.

4. NETHERLANDS. ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION IS NOT UNDER CONSIDERATION. GOVERNMENT DOES NOT RECOGNIZE ARAB BOYCOTT.

FIRMS ARE ALLOWED AMPLE DISCRETION IN MEASURES THEY MAY WISH TO TAKE TO AVOID BEING "HIT" BY BOYCOTT MEASURES.

5. UK. VOLUME OF TRADE WITH ARAB COUNTRIES COUNSELS GOVERNMENT AGAINST APPROVING LEGISLATION SIMILAR TO U.S. LAW. RECENTLY MEASURE ON BOYCOTT PRESENTED IN HOUSE OF LORDS ON PARLIAMENTARY INITIATIVE, BUT HAS LITTLE CHANCE OF APPROVAL AT PRESENT. GOVERNMENT DEPLORES ANY FORM OF BOYCOTT AND HAS NO CONTACT WITH ARAB BOYCOTT OFFICES. EACH FIRM MUST DECIDE ON THE BASIS OF ITS OWN INTERESTS WHAT ATTITUDE IT WILL TAKE. MINISTRY OF TRADE SUGGESTS TO FIRMS, ON REQUEST, BEST WAY TO RESOLVE QUESTIONS ARISING FROM BOYCOTT.

6. DENMARK. NO ANTI-BOYCOTT LAWS ARE UNDER STUDY. ARAB COUNTRIES APPARENTLY DO NOT REQUIRE NEGATIVE CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN. THERE ARE NO OFFICIAL CASES OF SECONDARY BOYCOTT.

7. FRANCE. MEASURE, CONTAINED IN LAW ON ECONOMIC MATTERS IN GENERAL, WHILE PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION ON STRICTLY RELIGIOUS, ETHNIC, OR RACIAL GROUNDS, PROVIDES GENERAL RESERVATION APPLICABLE TO BOYCOTT CLAUSES INSERTED IN COMMERCIAL AGREEMENTS. THESE CLAUSES, IN FACT, WILL NOT AUTOMATICALLY BE COVERED BY THE LAW, BUT WILL BE EVALUATED, IN THAT REGARD, IN LIGHT OF GOVERNMENT'S GENERAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC POLICY. IN PRACTICE, GOV EXAMINES ON "DISCRETIONAL BASIS" NATURE OF DISCRIMINATION CONTAINED IN ANTI-ISRAEL BOYCOTT CLAUSES.

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8. CANADA. FIRST MEETING OF THE ISRAELI-CANADIAN MIXED COMMISSION WAS HELD MAY 25-27. POINT 14 OF SIGNED, JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON MEETING IS DECLARATION OF CANADIAN MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE AGAINST BOYCOTTS AND IN FAVOR OF FREE TRADE. END TEST. HOLMES

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, BEXP, ETRD, IT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009